

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00680 101642Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /086 W  
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R 101605Z MAR 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7436  
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
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AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USNMR SHAPE BEL  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0680

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC  
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD  
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, CY  
SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION TO NEW CABINET

REF: NICOSIA 0659

1. CRITICISM OF KYPRIANOU CABINET BY POLITICAL RIGHT  
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00680 101642Z

INCREASED MARCH 10 WITH CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER AGON,  
GENERALLY CONSIDERED PARTIAL TO GREEK CYPRIOT  
NEGOTIATOR TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS, ADDING ITS VOICE TO  
OUTCRY RAISED BY CLERIDES' DEMOCRATIC RALLY. AGON  
SAID A POLITICAL STORM HAD SUPPLANTED TRANQUILLITY IN  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS AS RESULT OF WAY CABINET WAS  
RESHUFFLED AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS WILL NOT BE

PLEASANT. PAPER EMPHASIZED THAT AN IMPORTANT FACTION, THE PRO-MAKARIOS CAMP OUTSIDE KYPRIANOU'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY, IS NOT REPRESENTED IN NEW CABINET AND POINTEDLY PRAISED FOUR DEPARTING MINISTERS (CHRISTOPHIDES, SPANOS, KOLOTAS, AND PIERIDES) WHO, IT SAID, WERE CLOSE TO PRO-MAKARIOS CAMP.

2. BOTH AGON AND PRO-CLERIDES SIMERINI CRITICIZED APPOINTMENT OF INEXPERIENCED NICOS ROLANDIS AS FOREIGN MINISTER, CITING IT AS EXAMPLE OF WEAKNESS IN THE CABINET. LATTER PAPER AGAIN ATTACKED RETENTION OF SOFIANOS. ON THE LEFT, SOCIALIST (EDEK) PARTY MOUTH-PIECE TA NEA'S POINTEDLY QUALIFIED COMMENT WAS SIMILAR TO STATEMENT ISSUED PREVIOUS DAY BY COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTY: BOTH SAID THEY WOULD SUPPORT NEW CABINET AS LONG AS IT FOLLOWED CORRECT POLICIES. MASS CIRCULATION PHILELEFTHEROS COMMENTED THAT NEW GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE ITSELF BEFORE IT IS CRITICIZED BUT CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY INDICATION OF SUPPORT FOR NEW CABINET. PRO-DEMOCRATIC PARTY ELEFTHERI KYPROS CONTINUED TO BE ONLY PAPER TO ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOME CABINET.

3. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT BY KYPRIANOU AND ENSUING CONTROVERSY MAY SIGNAL ARRIVAL OF NEW KIND OF POLITICS, BASED ON PARTIES, IN CYPRUS.  
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PAGE 03 NICOSI 00680 101642Z

DURING ERA DOMINATED BY MAKARIOS, RIGHT OF CENTER PARTIES DID NOT PLAY DETERMINING ROLE IN COMPETITION FOR POWER. THEY WERE FORMED, REFORMED, RENAMED, AND DISBANDED FOR MAKARIOS' PURPOSES AND WERE PRIMARILY GROUPINGS AROUND PERSONALITIES. COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTY WAS, AND IS, EXCEPTION, BUT EVEN IT DID NOT OPPOSE MAKARIOS, WHO, OF COURSE, KEPT ABOVE PARTIES. KYPRIANOU, BY RETAINING LEADERSHIP OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY AFTER BECOMING PRESIDENT (ESTABLISHING A PRECEDENT) AND BY DRAWING SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS OF CABINET FROM THE PARTY, HAS INDICATED HE WILL SEEK TO RETAIN POWER THROUGH THE DP. SOME HIGH OFFICERS IN DP HAVE STATED THAT THEY CONSIDER STRENGTHENING THE PARTY TO BE HIGH PRIORITY TASK. WITH DP IN CONTROL OF BOTH PRESIDENCY AND LEGISLATURE FOR NEXT FEW YEARS, PARTY WILL BE IN AN ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION TO DO SO. OUTSIDERS (CLERIDES, PAPADOPOULOS, AND THEIR FOLLOWERS) MAY NOW REALIZE THAT IF THEY ARE EVER TO GAIN POWER, THEY WILL HAVE TO BUILD PARTIES CAPABLE OF WINNING ELECTIONS. THEY WILL FIND IT EASIER TO PLAY THE OPPOSITION ROLE BECAUSE OF KYPRIANOU'S EMPHASIS ON THE DP AS MOST IMPORTANT BASE FOR HIS OWN POSITION.

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## Message Attributes

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